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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0517

July 15, 1993

The Honorable John Murtha
Chairman, Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H144 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

First, let us extend our warmest regards and express our enthusiasm for working closely with you throughout the remainder of the 103rd Congress.

We are writing to request your support for the inclusion of \$25 million in the FY 1994 Defense Appropriations bill for the first phase of the California State University's (CSU) footprint at the Fort Ord military installation, for purposes of retrofitting existing buildings and infrastructure at Fort Ord. While this project is a critical component of the Fort Ord reuse strategy, and as such, essential to the revitalization of Monterey County's local economy, it is also a tremendous opportunity to convert a taxpayer financed and built institution (Fort Ord) into something that supports taxpayers at extraordinary low up-front cost. This project is being coordinated in conjunction with the University of California's proposed research and policy institute, thus constituting the centerpiece of the community's reuse plan. Additionally, it enjoys broad support throughout the California delegation as well as in the Monterey community.

The California State University (CSU) system currently serves nearly 360,000 students. It is projected that over the next decade there will be an enrollment demand increase in this system alone of nearly 180,000 students. Such a burgeoning problem requires comprehensive and careful planning in order to develop additional campuses for quality post secondary and graduate education. A CSU campus at Fort Ord would bring educational, cultural and economic benefits which would accrue to the community, region, and state. Once the campus is builtout, the economic impact on the community would continue by virtue of the university payroll and the purchasing of goods and services in the local economy.

The Fort Ord site, located on the Monterey Peninsula offers an ideal setting for a 25,000 full time equivalent student (FTES) campus and holds eminent potential for the development of a statewide/national university with a strong central focus in the sciences, including: marine biology, environmental remediation, as well as atmospheric, ecological and oceanographic studies. The success of this project will contribute vastly in restoring economic health to the Monterey region, while simultaneously contributing to

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The Honorable John Murtha

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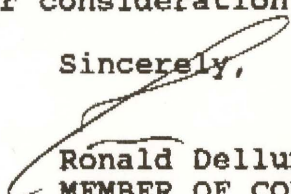
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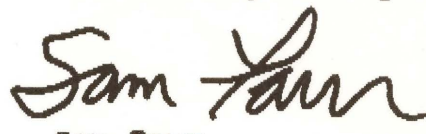
the solution of another problem, mainly, the overcrowded university system. In order to effectively carry out the first phase of the four-year plan on schedule, \$25 million is needed to retrofit administrative and classroom buildings, lecture halls, laboratories and dormitories to federal, state and local code to bring in the first class of 2,000 students by fall 1995.

We believe this project is a an excellent example of the measures that can be taken in response to base closures. With a staggering 18% unemployment rate in Monterey County, threatening to grow worse, the success of this project is imperative.

We recognize the constraints within which you must work in balancing the many requests you receive for funding, but truly appreciate any consideration you are able to give this matter. Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


Ronald Dellums
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Sam Farr
MEMBER OF CONGRESS